

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 IO-11 EA-07 FRB-03 NEA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EEC, OECD

SUBJECT: CIEC-EC OPENING STATEMENT FOR ENERGY COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 11

REF: EC BRUSSELS 1214

1. WE HAVE OBTAINED IN CONFIDENCE A COPY OF THE OPENING STATEMENT THE COMMUNITY WILL MAKE AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CIEC ENERGY COMMISSION ON FEBRUARY 11. IT IS CONSISTENT WITH EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ENERGY WILLIAMS' DESCRIPTION OF IT REPORTED REFTEL. BEGIN TEXT:

2. LAST DECEMBER, WHEN PRESIDENT ORTOLI OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION MADE HIS SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THIS HISTORIC FORUM, THERE HAD NEVER BEEN A COMMON AND CONCERTED ATTACK ON WORLD ENERGY PROBLEMS. WITH THE CREATION OF THIS ENERGY COMMISSION, WE NOW HAVE SUCH A FORUM, AND A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY.

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3. THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY IS PLEDGED TO PLAY A PRACTICAL

AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE TO ENSURE THAT A REAL DIALOGUE TAKES PLACE, A DIALOGUE WHICH WILL PRODUCE REAL RESULTS IN THE VITAL FIELD OF ENERGY.

4. IN OUR PRESENT INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY WHERE NATIONAL ECONOMIES ARE INTERDEPENDENT, FINELY WOVEN TOGETHER IN A COMPLEX ECONOMIC FABRIC, WE CANNOT EXPECT TO FIND IMMEDIATE EASY SOLUTIONS. BUT THE VERY FACT OF INTERDEPENDENCE MEANS THAT THERE ARE MANY AREAS WHERE OUR INTERESTS MARCH TOGETHER.

5. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE POSSIBLE TOPICS OF COMMON AGREEMENT, AND TOPICS WHERE POINTS-OF-VIEW ARE VERY SIMILAR, ON WHICH IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE EARLY PROGRESS.

6. WE PROPOSED ACCORDINGLY THAT WE SHOULD START OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE WORLD ENERGY SCENE. WE MUST AGREE ABOUT THE FACTS OF WORLD ENERGY BEFORE WE ATTEMPT TO SEEK SOLUTIONS. TO MAKE OUR DISCUSSIONS MEANINGFUL, WE BELIEVE THAT WE NEED OUR DISCUSSIONS MEANINGFUL, WE BELIEVE THAT WE NEED GOOD FORECASTS OF ENERGY DEMAND AND SUPPLY FOR THE SHORT AND THE LONG TERM, AND CAREFUL ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPORTANCE TO ALL OUR NATIONAL ECONOMIES OF SECURE ENERGY SUPPLIES ON TERMS WHICH ARE FAIR BOTH THE SUPPLIER AND TO THE USER.

7. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT A FRANK INTERCHANGE OF OPINION ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE SOURCES, WILL BE A USEFUL SUBJECT FOR EARLY DISCUSSION. WE ARE OF COURSE READY AND ANXIOUS TO PUT OUR SKILLS IN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHO WISH TO EXPLOIT AND EXPAND THEIR OWN ENERGY RESOURCES.

8. WE SHOULD LIKE TO LOOK FOR AND STUDY POINTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST CONCERNING THE SUPPLY AND PRICE OF ENERGY WITH THE OBJECT OF FINDING POSITIONS WHICH TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE VITAL INTERESTS OF ALL THOSE CONCERNED. THE SEARCH FOR COMMON POSITIONS WILL, WE FEEL, BE OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE FOR THE SUCCESS OF THIS COMMISSION.

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9. WE SHOULD ALSO WISH TO SEE THAT THE DIALOGUE WHICH WE START HERE TODAY CONTINUES, IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER, ON A FORMAL OR AN INFORMAL BASIS, AFTER THE CONFERENCE CLOSES.....THOUGH THIS WILL, NATURALLY, DEPEND ON THE PROGRESS MADE DURING THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

10. IN ALL OUR DISCUSSIONS WE MUST NEVER LOSE SIGHT THE NEED

FOR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO SAVE ENERGY, AND IN PARTICULAR
TO SAVE OIL AND GAS, OF WHICH WE ARE DEPLETING THE WORLD'S
STOCKS ALL TOO FAST. WE SHALL BE READY TO DESCRIBE THE EFFORTS
WHICH THE COMMUNITY IS MAKING IN THIS FIELD.

11. I AND MY COLLEAGUE HERE ARE READY TO MAKE OUR FULL
CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THIS COMMISSION,
AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE CAN TOGETHER REACH AGREEMENTS WHICH
WILL OPEN A NEW CHAPTER ON THE WORLD ENERGY SCENE. END TEXT.
MORRIS

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